

Commander's Newsletter

Headquarters, Army & Air Force Exchange Service

Spring 2003

Commanders:

AAFES exists to support military operations worldwide by providing merchandise and services vital to the morale of our U.S. fighting forces. The sole reason for our existence is service to and support of America's military members, serving not only alongside the deployed forces, but also providing support to their families and the troops "back home."

We go where you go:

- **We are currently supporting Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom from more than 40 sites.** In fact, we are now operating in Iraq, waiting to open more stores there as soon as we can. Over 300 AAFES associates are deployed in OEF/OIF locations. The level of support the AAFES-Europe team provides the various commands operating in the area has been extraordinary.

AAFES remains committed to contributing to the quality of life in military communities:

- **Our partnership with Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) and Air Force Services for the delivery of Name Brand Fast Food (NBFF) continues to grow.** The partnership, created through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), allows for development of NBFF operations within bowling centers, clubs and other MWR facilities. A joint MWR and AAFES assessment team completes an installation review to determine how best to meet NBFF requirements for an installation. To date, 90 food assessments are complete, 10 restaurants are open and 25 more are scheduled to open in 2003. If your installation has not requested a review under the MOA and you are interested in NBFF, contact Air Force Services or Army Community and Family Support Center for more information.
- **AAFES has introduced a new program called "Gifts From the Homefront."** Americans can now show their support for U.S. service members serving in support of Operation Enduring Freedom/Iraqi Freedom and their families by donating "Gifts From the Homefront" gift certificates to forward deployed soldiers, airmen and their families. By clicking on the link "Gifts from the Homefront" at aafes.com, purchasers can use the online links or download online forms from the CertifiChecks web site.
- **CENTRICMALL, your online concession mall,** continues to grow with 24 shops and more on the way. Recent additions include: Garfield Games (family friendly, online games and free electronic greeting cards), Brigade Quartermaster equipment, eSportsonline (sporting goods and day room accessories) and Kiyonna Clothing (plus size ladies clothing). CentricMall.com like eX, your electronic exchange, offers a wide selection of items with 24/7 convenience and each shop makes payment easy with the Military Star card.

